Appln. No.: 10/664,977

Amendment dated August 25, 2005

Reply to Office Action of May 27, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of May 27, 2005 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are

responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully

requested. Claims 1-11 and 13 remain pending. Claims 12 and 14-32 have been canceled

without prejudice or disclaimer.

Preliminarily, applicants note with appreciation the indication that the application

contains allowable subject matter. Specifically, claims 2-8, 10, 11 and 13 have been objected to

for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if amended to

incorporate all the features of their ultimate base claim and any intervening claims.

The title of the invention has been objected to as being non-descriptive. Applicants have

amended the title above to overcome this objection.

Claims 1 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S.

patent no. 6,046,935 to Takeuchi et al. ("Takeuchi"). Notwithstanding the merits of this

rejection, to expedite prosecution and place the application in condition for allowance, applicants

have canceled claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer, rewritten claim 2 in independent form

and amended claims 3, 9, 10 and 13 to depend from claim 2. These amendments render the

rejection based on Takeuchi moot.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that no fee is required for this submission. If any fees are required or if an

overpayment is made, the Commissioner is authorized to debit or credit our Deposit Account No.

19-0733, accordingly.

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All objections and rejections having been addressed, applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Dated: August 25, 2005

By:

Gary D. Fedorochko Registration No. 35,509

1001 G Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20001-4597

Tel: Fax:

(202) 824-3000 (202) 824-3001

GDF:lab